

Message Text

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10

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

RSR-01 /066 W

----- 069111

R 261305Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2469

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1393

BEIRUT FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, YE, SA

SUBJ: PAN AM ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN AIRLINES

REF: STATE 146464; JIDDA 3128

1. YARG STILL VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN PAN AM SURVEY
AND HAS IN FACT QUERIED US FOR INFO ON PAN AM FOLLOW-
UP ON EVEN'S JUNE VISIT.

2. JIDDA REFTEL REPORTED LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON POSSIBLE
SAUDI ASSISTANCE TO YEMEN AIR. YAR'S CURRENT THINKING
IS THAT IT WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHAT COMES OF THE PAN AM
TRACK BEFORE FALLING BACK ON ARRANGEMENT WITH SAUDIA,
OR SAUDI-SUBSIDIZED ARRANGEMENT WITH TWA, WERE THIS
FEASIBLE.

3. EMBASSY VIEW IS THAT WHILE WE WELCOME PAN AM
INTEREST AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS PURSUED AS FAR AS
POSSIBLE, WE WONDER WHERE YARG WILL GET THE KIND OF
MONEY NEEDED FOR LONG TERM MANAGEMENT CONTRACT AND
NEW EQUIPMENT UNLESS FROM SAUDI ARABIA. YEMENIS ARE
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THINKING ABOUT UAE BUT AS FAR AS WE KNOW HAVE NEVER

APPROACHED LATTER. PUTTING YAL ON SOUND LONG-TERM
FOOTING LIKELY BE AN EXPENSIVE PROPOSITWON PROBABLY IN
NEIGHBORHOOD OF DOLS 25 MILLION.

4. EMBASSY AND AAO WOULD BE OPEN TO PROPOSAL FOR SOME
AID ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF YAL BUT ANYTHING OTHER
THAN A VERY MODEST SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION IN FORM OF
TRAINING AND, AIRPORT DESIGN, CRASH AND FIREFIGHTING
EQUIPMENT, ETC WOULD REQUIRE THE KIND OF MONEY THAT
USAID PROGRAM IN YEMEN SHOULD BUT CURRENTLY DOES NOT HAVE.
DEVELOPMENT LOAN WOULD BE A POSSIBILITY.

5. DO NOT BELIEVE THERE WILL BE ANY DIFFICULTY IN
YARG COVERING PAN AM TEAM'S IN-COUNTRY FOOD AND LODGING
EXPENSES. AS REGARDS TIMING, ANY TIME AFTER MID-AUGUST
WOULD BE FINE WITH YARG. ADVISE ETA AS SOON AS KNOWN.
CRAWFORD

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